

*How & Why We Must Purge the Evil Person from Among Us*

Leviticus 24:10-23; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

March 9, 2014

Sermon Outline

Notes:

I. Introduction: Children's Sermon

1 Corinthians 15:33

Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals."

Luke 6:27

"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you..."

II. The Death Penalty for Blasphemy?

A. What We Say Reveals Who We Are

Matthew 12:33-37

<sup>33</sup> "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. <sup>34</sup> ... For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. <sup>35</sup> The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. <sup>36</sup> I tell you, on the day of judgment *people will give account for every careless word they speak*, <sup>37</sup> for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

B. Blasphemy Reveals A Heart that Despises God

Leviticus 24:16

Whoever blasphemes the name of the Lord shall surely be put to death. All the congregation shall stone him. The sojourner as well as the native...

Matthew 6:9b-10

"Our Father in heaven, *hallowed be your name*. <sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

[Believers] must speak and live as if God's reputation is at stake.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ross, A. P. (2002). *Holiness to the Lord: A Guide to the Exposition of the Book of Leviticus* (448). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

### C. Heaven on Earth (The Danger)

**Exodus 33:3** (After the Golden Calf)

Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but ***I will not go up among you, lest I consume you on the way***, for you are a stiff-necked people.”

**Deuteronomy 28:58–59** (HCSB)

<sup>58</sup> “If you are not careful to obey all the words of this law, which are written in this scroll, by fearing this glorious and awesome name—Yahweh (the LORD), your God—<sup>59</sup> He will bring extraordinary plagues on you...

#### Key Idea

*Drawing near to God brings both the promise of blessing and the danger of cursing.*

### III. Holiness in the New Covenant Temple

#### A. Personal Holiness

**1 Peter 2:9, 11**

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a ***royal priesthood***, a ***holy nation***, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ... <sup>11</sup> Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

#### B. A Holy People

**2 Corinthians 6:14–7:1**

<sup>14</sup> Do not be **unequally yoked** with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? ... Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? <sup>16</sup> What agreement has the ***temple of God*** with idols? ... touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, <sup>18</sup> and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.”

<sup>1</sup> Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and

The NT Temple  
(Jesus & Us)

John 2:19–21  
1 Cor. 3:16–17

spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

C. Purge Yourselves...

1. What it doesn't mean...

**1 Corinthians 5:9–10**

<sup>9</sup> I wrote to you in my letter *not to associate with sexually immoral people*—<sup>10</sup> not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world.

2. What it does mean...

**1 Corinthians 5:11–13**

<sup>11</sup> But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, *reviler*, drunkard, or swindler—**not even to eat with such a one**.<sup>12</sup> For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge?<sup>13</sup> God judges those outside. “*Purge the evil person from among you.*” (Death penalty – Deut. 13:5; 17:7, 12; 21:21; 22:21, 22, 24)

**IV. Application: We Must Cleanse Ourselves from Every Defilement**

A. We must Discriminate (Do not be Unequally Yoked)

1. Church Membership
2. Fencing the Table
3. Marriage

**1 Corinthians 7:12–14** (Cf. 1 Cor. 7:39 – Remarry)

<sup>12</sup> To the rest I say (I, not the Lord) that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her.<sup>13</sup> If any woman has a husband who is an unbeliever, and he consents to live with her, she ***should not divorce him***.

<sup>14</sup> For the unbelieving husband is made holy because of his wife, and the unbelieving wife is made holy

because of her husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

4. Sexual Purity (1 Corinthians 6:18–20)

B. We Must Exclude Those Who Claim to be Brothers but will not Turn from Public Sin

1. Refuse to serve the Lord's Supper
2. Refuse "table fellowship"
3. Refuse hospitality (2 John 7–11)

C. Love & Protection

**1 Corinthians 5:3b–8ff**

[Paul] I have already pronounced *judgment* on the one who did such a thing. <sup>4</sup> When you are assembled in the name of the Lord Jesus and my spirit is present, with the power of our Lord Jesus, <sup>5</sup> you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? <sup>7</sup> *Cleanse out the old leaven* that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For *Christ, our Passover lamb*, has been sacrificed. <sup>8</sup> Let us therefore *celebrate the festival*, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. ...

D. With Humility and Faith (Matt. 13:25–30; 25:31–46)

**Key Idea**

*Fearing God and not men, we must courageously refuse to fellowship with those who profess to be brothers but who will not submit to clear biblical instruction both to warn them and protect the church.*